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September 30, 2014

LaDonna Turner (6SF-TR)  
Site Assessment Manager  
Technical & Enforcement Branch  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Ave Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75202



**RE: Submittal of the Site Inspection Report for the West Central Avenue, Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, CERCLIS ID #NMN000607372**

Dear LaDonna

Enclosed for your review is the Site Inspection (SI) Report for the West Central Avenue (Site), in Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico, CERCLIS ID #NMN000607372, prepared by Martyne Kieling of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Superfund Oversight Section (SOS). The SI was conducted under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

The Site is characterized as a ground water plume contaminated with chlorinated solvents and aromatic hydrocarbon compounds in a mixed commercial and residential area west of downtown Albuquerque with no identified source(s). The Site was identified when chlorinated solvents were detected in ground water samples collected from upgradient monitoring wells at the Fruit Avenue Plume Superfund Site (EPA ID # NMD986668911). During the Fruit Avenue Plume quarterly ground water monitoring from 2003-2013, trichloroethene (TCE), cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE), and trans-1,2-dichloroethene (trans-1,2-DCE) have been detected in ground water samples as far west as 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW and Marquette Avenue NW in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It is this location that is delineated as the four mile center point of the Site ground water plume. At 1503 Central Ave NW, within a half mile of the Site, there was a jewelry manufacturing business that operated from 1947-1975 that has a documented release of TCE to the vadose zone and the water table adjacent to and beneath the building foundation. This property is currently under investigation and assessment through the NMED Remediation Oversight Section (ROS) Brownfields Program. Additionally, several former businesses have been identified within a half mile of the Site that may have potentially used TCE.

Ground water data collected during the West Central Avenue SI indicates no chlorinated or aromatic hydrocarbons in samples from the four irrigation wells and two monitor wells located just over a half mile from the Site and upgradient of the former jewelry manufacturing business

property. During this SI, no existing wells were identified to enable ground water sampling between the location of known ground water contamination at 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW and Marquette Avenue NW and the one identified TCE release location, the former jewelry manufacturing business.

Of the 87 active municipal supply wells in the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority (ABCWUA), 24 of the wells are within a four mile radius of the Site. Volatile organic compound (VOC) analytical data for the period from January 2005 through January 2013 indicate that ground water samples from two of the 24 active municipal supply wells within a four mile radius have exhibited detections of TCE below the EPA drinking water MCLs and below the NMWQCC human health standards. Attribution to a source of chlorinated solvent contamination in ABCWUA wells has not been established. Historical data reviewed from other active water supply wells located within the 4 mile radius of the site include, one active University of New Mexico well and one emergency well at Presbyterian Hospital. TCE was identified various times, below the EPA drinking water MCLs and NMWQCC human health standards in samples collected from these wells; however, attribution to a source of chlorinated solvent contamination in these wells has not been established. Other unidentified contaminated private wells may exist considering there are up to 1,274 domestic well permit records within a four mile radius of the Site.

The soil, surface water, and air pathways have not been fully investigated as part of this SI as the observed release primarily impacts the ground water pathway. Further evaluation of these pathways may be warranted NMED SOS recommends HRS evaluation for the Site

Please contact me at 505-827-2434 or Martyne Kieling at 505-827-2340 if you have any questions

Sincerely,



Phyllis Bustamante  
Manager  
Superfund Oversight Section

Enclosure: SI Report, West Central Avenue, Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico,  
CERCLIS ID# NMN000607372

xc w/o enc: Kathy Gibson, US EPA Region 6 Superfund State Coordinator  
David Roybal, Manager, Grants and Planning Section  
Martyne Kieling, Superfund Oversight Section  
SOS Reading File